Setting up of Women's Development Corporation

930. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA :
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the State Governments to set up Women's Development Corporation in their respective States;

(b) is so, what are the details of the States in which Women's Development Corporations have since been set up; and

(c) what are the main objectives of setting up of the said Corporations and to what extent the women would be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) The Government has circulated copies of a scheme for assisting the Women's Development Corporations to be set up by the State Governments and requested them to avail of it.

(b) So far the Government of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Punjab Union Territory Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Manipur and Gujarat have set up Women's Development Corporations.

(c) The main objectives of the Governments Scheme for assisting the Women's Development Corporation are to cover directly and in association with other organisations, poor and needy women, including women belonging to categories such as single women ; female headed households etc.

Privatisation of construction of National Highways

931. SHRI D.B. CHANDRE GOWDA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 275 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th February 1988 and state:

(a) whether the Central Government's plan to allow private sector to construct and maintain highways and bridges has evoked poor response from industrialists;

(b) whether the proposal to allow private sector for the said task has been shelved;

(c) if so, what are the datails of industrialists who had shown interest the reaons for not assigning them task; and

(d) what other steps Government propose to take to construct the national highways in a time bound period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c) The Government of India invited proposals from the private sector for taking up selectively certain toll based schemes on National Highways. Only two specific proposals for the construction of Pune by-pass (length 34.35 kms) and four laning of Kanpur-Lucknow road (length 60 kms) were received from the following firms : —

I. *Pune By-pass* :

1. M/s. Agarwal Stone Udyog India Ltd., Pune.

2. M/s. S.B. Joshi & Co. Ltd., Bombay.

3. M/s AFCONS, New Delhi.

4. M/s B.M. Mhaske & Associates, Poona .

II. *Lucknow-Kanpur Road* :

1. M/s J&K Cement Works, Kanpur.

2. M/s J&K Iron Steel Co., Kanpur.

As Pune by-pass was already under construction by the State PWD and the proposal for four laning of Kanpur-Lucknow road was not found feasible, these proposals were dropped.

(d) Costruction and development of National Highways is a continuous process and it is taken up depending upon *inter-se* priority of the works and availability of resources.

World Bank's study on condition of roads in India

932. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to a study conducted by World Bank Policy Study, it has been revealed that roads in our country have been badly maintained ;

(b) if so, whether Government have since examined the report by World Bank Policy Study ; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps contemplated by Government to maintain roads in the country properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) Standing Committee on Maintenance of Roads constituted by the Government of India in the Ministry of Surface Transport have considered *inter alia* World Bank Study Report entitled 'Road deterioration in developing countries' which underlines that India has been one among several developing countries where the roads have been found to be inadequately maintained. The Study has placed emphasis on technology transfer, institutional improvements and the development of skills apart from mobilisation of resources. In this connection Central Road Fund has been augmented, norms for maintenance of roads have been revised and external financial assistance is also contemplated.

संसद सदस्यों से रेलवे को ठोस सुझाव

933. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को अनाधिकृत रेलवे फारवर्डिंग और क्लियरिंग एजेंट रखने की वर्तमान प्रथा का उन्मूलन करने हेतु कुछ सांसदों से सुझाव प्राप्त हुए है, जिसके फलस्वरूप सरकार को करोड़ों रुपये का राजस्व प्राप्त होगा ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन का विवरण क्या है; और

(ग) इन सुझावों पर सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री महावीर प्रसाद) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) प्रमुख रेलवे स्टेशन पर नश्य पदार्थों सहित पार्सल तथा सामान की बुकिंग के लिए निविदाएं आमंत्रित करके अन्वेषण एजेंटों की नियुक्ति का सुझाव है।

(ग) रेल प्रशासन स्टेशनों पर पार्सल तथा सामान की बुकिंग के लिए प्रेषकों की ओर से किसी व्यक्ति को कोई एकमात्र अधिकार नहीं दे सकता।